January 20, 1943

SUPPLEMENTARY STATEMENT BY MR. D. S. MYER
Before the Sub-Committee of the Military Affairs
Committee of the U. S. Senate

The War Relocation Authority is an independent establishment created within the Office for Emergency Management by Executive Order No. 9102 signed by the President March 18, 1942. The Authority was established for the primary purpose of relieving military establishments of the burden of providing for the relocation of persons excluded from military areas by order of the Secretary of War or by designated military commanders acting pursuant to Executive Order No. 9066, dated February 19, 1942. M. S. Eisenhower was the first Director of the Authority. At the time of his appointment as Associate Director, Office of War Information, I succeeded him. My appointment became effective June 17, 1942.

The major part of the program for which the War Relocation Authority is responsible has been the relocation of approximately 110,000 people of Japanese ancestry who were evacuated from the State of California and portions of the States of Washington, Oregon, and Arizona. The first phases of this evacuation were initiated previous to the establishment of the War Relocation Authority. On March 2, 1942, certain areas on the West Coast were ordered to be evacuated of all people of Japanese ancestry. The persons evacuated were allowed to move to points outside the evacuation area at will. During a period of approximately one month, nearly 8,000 persons moved voluntarily out of the restricted areas, most of them into eastern California and the Inter-mountain states. As voluntary movement progressed, the evacuees began to encounter local opposition. It soon became apparent that serious trouble might result if more than 1100,000 persons were required to relocate themselves voluntarily and without organized planning, supervision and assistance. Military authorities responsible for the evacuation had recognized that some of the population would lack the means to relocate voluntarily. They had, therefore, planned to establish one or more reception centers to which evacuees who chose could go to be housed, fed, and otherwise cared for. As it became evident that voluntary evacuation should not be continued, it was decided to provide sufficient reception center capacity to care for the entire evacuee population, to suspend voluntary evacuation and to develop a plan for removing the population under government superivision. On March 29, 1942, the Commanding General, Western Defense Command, issued a so-called "freezing" order prohibiting persons of Japanese ancestry from leaving the restricted areas voluntarily.

The War Relocation Authority, which had been established during the period of voluntary evacuation, concurred in the issuance of the "freezing" order. It participated thenceforth in the development of the evacuation and relocation program. An understanding was reached that the Western Defense Command should retain responsibility for the evacuation process, and have responsibility for the evacuee population until its delivery to relocation centers. Jurisdiction over the reception centers already planned was assigned to the War Relocation Authority. The Army undertook to construct necessary additional centers on sited to be selected jointly by the Army and the War Relocation Authority. To facilitate the speedy evacuation of the restricted areas, the Army also established a number of temporary centers in

converted race tracks, fair grounds and similar locations within the evacuated area. These were called assembly centers, as distinguished from the relocation centers which were located in areas where, if necessary, the evacuee population could live and work for the duration of the war.

On April 7, 1942, the Director of the War Relocation Authority and Colonel Karl R. Bendetson, representing the Western Defense Command, met in conference with the Governors of the Western states at Salt Lake City, to discuss with them the feasibility of assisting the people who were being evacuated to relocate in relatively small groups throughout the Intermountain and Western states. The Governors, with one exceptiion, opposed the idea and indicated generally that the evacuees could come into the states only under military guard. Following this meeting a general memorandum of agreement was drawn up between the War Department and the War Relocation Authority and was signed by the Director of the War Relocation Authority and J. J. McCloy, Assistant Secretary of War, on April 17. This agreement outlines the general understanding between the War Department and the War Relocation Authority as to the responsibilities of the respective agencies for evacuation, management of assembly centers, selection of relocation sites, land acquisition, construction of initial facilities, transportation of evacuees, designation of military areas, and provision of military police patrol and protection. The text of this agreement follows:

April 17, 1942

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE WAR DEPARTMENT AND WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

Preamble: The War Relocation Authority is an independent establishment created by Executive Order of the President, No. 9102 dated March 18, 1942, with a primary objective of relieving the military establishment of the burden of providing for the relocation of persons excluded from military areas by order of the Secretary of War or any designated military commander acting pursuant to Executive Order of the President, No. 9066 dated February 19, 1942. The emphasis in all War Relocation Authority activities will be increasingly to alleviate the drain on military resources with regard to all phases of evacuation and relocation. The War Relocation Authority has agreed to prepare itself as rapidly as practicable to assume those burdens now imposed on the War Department respecting such activities and particularly in connection with Pacific Coast evacuation now in progress. Accordingly the following understanding is executed between the War Department and the War Relocation Authority to meet the present situation.

1. The evacuation of combat zones is a military necessity and when determined upon must not be retarded by resettlement and relocation. In other words, the timing of evacuation is a military function which War Relocation Authority will do all in its power to accommodate.

2. Assembly Centers are staging areas and necessary because of the time required to select relocation sites and to construct Relocation Centers (Reception Centers). Assembly Centers are constructed and will be supplied and operated by the War Department.

3. Relocation sites, upon which Relocation Centers (Reception Centers) are built, are to be selected by the War Relocation Authority, subject to War Department approval.

4. The acquisition, as distinguished from selection, of sites for Relocation Centers (Reception Centers) is a War Department function. Such acquisition will be made by the War Department upon the request of the War Relocation Authority. The War Relocation Authority will reimburse the War Department for the acquisition cost of relocation sites, or pay the cost in the first instance.

a. As a part of the acquisition procedure, respecting both private and public lands, the War Department, through an appropriate military commander, will advise the Chief Executive of the State concerned of the military necessity for the location of a relocation project within that State.

b. The War Relocation Authority has full responsibility for compilation of the necessary data and descriptions in connection with 3 and 4 above.

5. Construction of initial facilities at Relocation Centers (Reception Centers) will be accomplished by the War Department. This initial construction will include all facilities necessary to provide the minimum essentials of living, viz., shelter, hospital, mess, sanitary facilities, administration building, housing for relocation staff, post office, store houses, essential refrigeration equipment, and military police housing. (War Department construction will not include refinements such as schools, churches and other community planning adjuncts.) The placement and construction of military police housing will be subject to the approval of the appropriate military commander.

6. The War Department will procure and supply the initial equipment for Relocation Centers (Reception Centers), viz., kitchen equipment, minimum mess and barrack equipment, hospital equipment and ten days' supply of non-perishable subsistence based on the Relocation Center (Reception Center) evacuee capacity. From the date of opening, or the date on which the War Relocation Authority initiates the operation of any Relocation Center (Reception Center), as the case may be, the War Department will transfer accountability for all such equipment and property to the War Relocation Authority. The War Relocation Authority agrees to assume such accountability.

Thereafter, the War Relocation Authority will maintain and replace all such equipment and property, including subsistence, and will procure whatever additional supplies, subsistence and equipment it may require. The War Department agrees that the War Relocation Authority may effect its procurement through War Department agencies.

a. As to all routine procurement effected by the WAR Relocation Authority through War Department Agencies, said Authority agrees that it will transmit to the War Department a forecast of its requirements semi-annually in advance and ~~that~~ that it will confirm in writing to the appropriate War Department Agency its actual requirements from time to time as the need for such procurement develops. The War Relocation Authority will take all possible and practicable steps to inform the War Department well in advance of its requirements.

7. After pending arrangements for existing Reception Centers are complete, the War Relocation Authority will operate Relocation Centers (Reception Centers) from the date of opening. This will include staffing, administration, project planning and complete operation and maintenance. In undertaking such operations the War Relocation Authority will not retard completion of the evacuation process but will accommodate military requirements. It will be prepared to accept successive increments of evacuees as construction is completed and supplies and equipment are delivered. In each case the War Relocation Authority will provide a project manager who will be available to the War Department local construction representative for consultation as soon as a given project is approved for construction.

8. The War Department will provide for the transportation of evacuees to Assembly Centers and from Assembly Centers to Relocation Centers (Reception Centers) under appropriate military escort. The War Department, through the Western Defense Command, has arranged for the storage of household effects of evacuees through the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco. At War Department expense, the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco has acquired warehouse space, provided civilian guards, and has arranged for inventories of goods stored by each evacuee. When evacuee goods are stored and the Federal Reserve Bank delivers inventory receipts to the War Relocation Authority, said Authority will accept such receipts from the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco and, upon such acceptance, said Authority assumes the responsibility now borne by the War Department for the warehousing program, including the assumption from the date of delivery of receipts, of payment of all costs. Thereafter, the disposition of such household effects and the transportation thereof to Relocation Centers, or elsewhere, will be the sole responsibility of the War Relocation Authority.

9. In the interest of the security of the evacuees relocation sites will be designated by the appropriate military commander or by the Secretary of War, as the case may be, as prohibited zones and military areas, and appropriate restrictions with respect to the rights of evacuees and others to enter, remain in, or leave such areas will be promulgated so that ingress and egress of all persons, including evacuees, will be subject to the control of the responsible Military Commander. Each relocation site will be under Military Police patrol and protection as determined by the War Department. Relocation Centers (Reception Centers) will have a minimum capacity of 5,000 evacuees (until otherwise agreed to) in order that the number of Military Police required for patrol and protection will be kept at a minimum.

10. It is understood that all commitments herein as related to the use of War Department and/or War Relocation funds are subject to the approval of the Bureau of the Budget.

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

by M. S. EISENHOWER /s/
Director

WAR DEPARTMENT

by J. J. MCCLOY /s/
Assistant Secretary of War

During April and May and the first half of June, 1942, sites of the ten present relocation centers were selected. These ten centers are located as follows:

Relocation Center	Location	Present Population
Tule Lake	Tule Lake, California	15,034
Manzanar	Manzanar, California	9,878
G Gila River	Rivers, Arizona	13,321
Colorado River	Poston, Arizona	17,620
Cantral Utah	Topaz, Utah	7,867
Minidoka	Hunt, Idaho	9,277
Heart Mountain	Heart Mountain, Wyoming	10,709
Granada	Amache, Colorado	6,796
Rohwer	McGehee, Arkansas	8,453
Jerome	Dermott, Arkansas	8,261
	Total	107,225

(The War Relocation Authority is also operating a small isolation center at Moab, Utah.)

The first of the evacuees to come under the administration of the War Relocation Authority were received at Tule Lake, California and Poston, Arizona, during the latter part of May. The Manzanar Assembly Center was taken over by the War Relocation Authority as a relocation center as of June 1, 1942. Movement of evacuees from assembly centers administered by the War Department and from Military Area No. 2 in California proceeded week by week through the summer and fall of 1942. The last evacuees removed from West Coast areas were received in Arkansas relocation centers approximately November 1, 1942. From the beginning the relocation centers have been looked upon as a temporary residence for the evacuees. While some of the population may remain in the centers for the duration, it has been expected that a large proportion will remain only until they can relocate outside the military areas in places where their most effective service can be rendered.

The major effort of the War Relocation Authority until about August 15 was devoted to the recruitment and training of staff, organization of centers, and establishment of procedures having to do with their physical operation. This involved making provision for transportation, warehousing, feeding, sanitation and medical care, housing, and organization of all other types of services such as are required in any city. All of these operations were proceeding while the centers were still under construction. In no case was the basic construction completed at the time the centers were required to begin reception of evacuees.

GENERAL PROBLEMS RESULTING FROM THE EVACUATION

Evacuation of the Japanese American population from their homes and occupations on the West Coast, and their relocation in ten newly established wartime communities is a movement without precedent in the United States. Inevitably such an undertaking has created problems, not all of which could be foreseen. The size of the task, involving more than 100,000 men, women, and children, as well as its unprecedented character, has contributed to the complexity of the undertaking.

At the present time the responsibilities of the War Relocation Authority, in dealing with these problems, fall into three main categories. First, and at the present time most important, are those problems arising in the administration of relocation centers. While we do not consider the centers as permanent places of residence and do not feel that the maintenance of evacuees in relocation centers represents the most constructive solution to the over-all problem, we do realize that the great majority of evacuees are now in the centers, and that their proper maintenance there must be our first concern.

Second, and of increasing importance, are the problems arising from the release of evacuees for work outside the centers and for other purposes. Even before evacuation from certain of the restricted areas had been initiated, the Army and the War Relocation Authority were forced by the demands in many of the western states for agricultural labor to develop a program for releasing large numbers of evacuees for outside employment.

Throughout the summer and autumn of 1942, the number of evacuees released on temporary work leave reached nearly 10,000.

Problems arising in the management of property owned by evacuees in the evacuated areas constitute the third major category of problems with which the War Relocation Authority is concerned. Under plans developed by the Army as a part of the evacuation program, evacuees were offered assistance through the medium of the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco and the Farm Security Administration in the leasing, sale, or management of their property. In August, 1942, responsibilities in this field were transferred, at the request of the cooperating agencies, to the War Relocation Authority.

THE NATURE OF THE EVACUATED POPULATION

The present population of the ten relocation centers is approximately 106,000. Roughly two-thirds of these people are American citizens by virtue of birth in this country. The remaining one-third are aliens, whose naturalization is not permitted under the laws of the United States. The distribution of this population by age and sex is suggested by the following table, based upon the United States Census of 1940.

As this table indicates, the bulk of the alien male population averages more than 60 years of age. The bulk of the alien female population averages about 48 years of age. The bulk of the citizens population falls below 25 years of age. The column in this tabulation headed "Average Population" is introduced to indicate what the distribution, by age and sex, of the Japanese-American population in the Pacific Coast states in 1940 would have been had it conformed to the distribution by age and sex of the general population in the area.

In addition to the wide and distinct difference in age between the citizen and alien groups in this population, probably its most important characteristics from the point of view of relocation center administration are (1) the relative lack of persons in the age groups of 25 to 50, which generally constitutes the most productive part of the working population; and (2) the relatively high proportion of high school students in the school population.

EVACUATION FROM HAWAII

Although no wholesale evacuation of the Japanese-American population such as occurred on the Pacific Coast has been ordered in Hawaii, the Army has notified the War Relocation Authority that there will be some evacuation of persons of Japanese descent to the continent of the United States, and that the Authority should prepare to care for these evacuees in relocation centers. No estimate has been given of the total evacuation now contemplated although we have been given to understand that it probably will not involve many thousands of persons.

The first evacuees from Hawaii were received in relocation centers on November 24, 1942. Since that time 443 Hawaiian evacuees have been received in centers, and 250 are now en route. Most of the Hawaiian evacuees are women and children or old men who are not able to support themselves in Hawaii. All, up to the present, have participated voluntarily in the evacuation. Judging from the present limited experience, if the numbers of evacuees from Hawaii should increase substantially, they will become a special and distinct problem in the relocation program.

BASIC POLICIES OF CENTER ADMINISTRATION:

The War Relocation Authority has undertaken to provide all evacuees residing in centers the following essentials: housing, food, medical care, and education through the high school level. In each of these categories the facilities provided are the minimum necessary to meet reasonable American standards.

HOUSING:

All evacuees in centers are housed in barracks, which are divided into four or more one-room apartments. The barracks are grouped in blocks, each of which is made up of 14 barracks, a central toilet and bath-house, a laundry-room, mess-hall , and a reacreation hall.

This housing for evacuees is part of the basic center construction, which was designed and built by the United States Army Engineers. The Army's original plan, which was agreed to by the War Relocation Authority, contemplated that a minimum of one room would be made available to each family, and that no family would be required to share its one-room apartment with anyone else. At the present time, in order to make barracks space available for schools, church services, and other community purposes, the War Relocation Authority is unable to meet this standard. Many families are, at the present time, required to share barracks space with outsiders. Similarly, few recreation halls are available for the block usees for which they were constructed. The War Relocation Authority's program for the construction of schools and other facilities is intended to remedy this situation.

All center construction is of a temporary character, similar to the Army's Theater of Operations type of construction. While the centers differ from each other in minor details, the most common type of building is a frame structure covered with plain sheathing lumber and tar-paper. Because of the heat, the Arizona centers have double roofs; because of the cold, some of the more northern centers have finished interior walls. None of the barracks has running water; all have electric lights, and some sor t of heating stove for each apartment.

FOOD AND MESS OPERATION:

All evacuees eat in mess-halls operated by the Authority. In each center, mess operations are directed by a Chief Steward, who is a member of the administrative staff. He has not more than two appointed assistants. Under the director of the Chief Steward and his immediate assistants, all work connected with requisitioning, receipt, warehousing, issue, preparation, and serving of food, and the maintenance and operation of subsistence warehouses and mess-halls is performed by evacuee personnel. Recognizing the importance of mess operations to the morale of the centers, the stewards undertake to provide good, wholesome food, selected and prepared to the taste of the evacuees. Because of the varied nature of the population, which includes some people whose tastes are very largely Japanese, along with others whose tastes are almost wholly American, it is not easy to prepare menus which will satisfy the entire population. Experience seems to indicate that the best way to deal with this situation is to alternate Oriental and American types of foods.

It is the policy of the Authority to provide only simple, substantial foods. All rationing regulations and recommendations applicable to the civilian populations of this country are observed in the administration of center mess operations. At the present time, the following rationing regulations are in effect:

1. Meat is rationed in the following manner:

   (a) Children under six years of age shall receive not more than three-fourths of a pound of meat weekly.

   (b) Children from six to twelve years of age shall receive not more than one and one-half pounds of meat weekly.

   (c) All persons over twelve years of age shall receive not more than two and one-half pounds of meat weekly.

   Meat allowances shall be calculated to include the weight of all fat and bone.

2. Pending a development of a rationing plan, ham and bacon shall not be purchased.

3. Sugar shall be issued in the ratio of one and one-half pounds for ninety meals, or thirty days per person.

4. Coffee shall be issued on the basis of one pound for each person over fifteen years of age every five weeks.

5. Pending the development of a rationing program, oleomargarine shall be used in place of butter.

All food for relocation centers is purchased through the Quartermaster Corps of the United States Army, except under special circumstances, when by agreement with the Army. purchases are made directly by the Centers. Generally speaking, all staples are purchased through the Quartermaster General, and all perishables through Army Marketing Centers. Arrangements were made to buy food through the Army both to give the War Relocation Authority the advantage of army experience and facilities, and to give the army an opportunity to prevent competition by the War Relocation Authority in certain markets for food need for the armed forces.

War Relocation centers are operating under a cash ration allowance of forty-five cents per person per day. This cost includes the cost of feeding special diet cases, infants, and pregnant women. Currently the average actual cost of feeding is about forty cents per person.

EDUCATION:

One fourth of the evacuee population in the centers is of school age, and is in school. This is substantially larger than the proportion of school children in the normal population. Moreover, as has been suggested above, a disproportionately large part of the school population is of high school age. Virtually all of the school children in the population were born in this country and are citizens. Virtually all were being educated prior to evacuation in American public schools.

The War Relocation Authority believes that one of the best means by which to continue the process of Americanization among the school children of Japanese descent, and to counteract some of the bad effects of evacuation and relocation, is to provide a sound educational system. It is our policy to provide elementary and high school facilities, meeting the minimum standards of the states in which our centers are located, and providing education which will permit the students to return to public schools outside the centers after war, without loss of credit for the time spent in the centers. Our educational programs have been developed and curricula planned in cooperation with the state school authorities of the states in which centers are located. All teaching is in English. No Japanese language schools are permitted in the centers.

The entire evacuee population has expressed a keen interest in the educational program. When our basic educational plans were being made, we were asked expressly by leaders of the evacuee population to provide as large a proportion as possible of Caucasian teachers. They felt that prior to evacuation, schools had been the biggest single force for Americanization, and they expressed the hope that their children would continue to have contact with qualified Caucasian teachers. Because of this fact, and because there are relatively few qualified teachers among the evacuees, our original plan called for the employment of at leat three fourthe of the teaching staff from outside the centers. We have not, as a matter of fact, been able to secure as many teachers as we need, and have been forced to use larger numbers of inexperienced evacuees than had been intended. At the present time, slightly more than half of the teaching staff is from the evacuee population.

Appointed Caucasian teachers are employed under Civil Service regulations and are paid salaries established under the Classification Act. Because of the administrative necessity of keep children occupied in the relatively crowded confines of the relocation centers, schools are to be operated eleven months out of the year. Even on such a basis it will be more than a year before the school time lost during evacuation and relocation is made up.

Schools are now operating in space originally constructed for barracks. Facilities for scientific and vocational work at the high school level are inadequate. In most centers, living quarters have been crowded to make barrack space available for schools. To relieve this situation, the War Relocation Authority has undertaken to build school buildings of a temporary character similar in construction to the other buildings of the center. Plans have been completed and priorities secured for the construction of elementary and high schools on all centers. It now appears, however, that changes in the centers' population, resulting from the release of persons on leave and a reduction in the expected evacuation from Hawaii, may make it possible to use some barrack space permanently for schools. In view of this possibility, we are building initially only those parts of the school plant for which barrack space is not adaptable. A careful check is constructed which are absolutely needed.

MEDICAL CARE AND HOSPITALIZATION

Recognizing the possibility that the process of evacuation and relocation might increase the susceptibility of the evacuee population to disease, and thatthe likelihood of serious epidemics is greater in camp communities than in normal communities, the Army made provision in the basic contraction program of the centers for a fully equipped hospital on each center. Because the barracks type housing is entirely unsuited to home care of the sic, even minor illnesses are considered hospital cases in the relocation centers. This consideration caused the Army to provide a high ratio of hospital beds to the population (about 18 to the 1,000) than is customary in most normal communities.

The War Relocation Authority provides an appointed Medical Director in each center, appointed under Civil Service and paid according to the Classification Act. All other medical positions, all dental positions, and such technical positions as X-Ray Technologist, Pharmacist, and Laboratory Technician are filled with evacuee personnel. Because there are relatively few qualified nurses among the evacuee population, the Authority planned to provide a relatively complete appointed nursing staff. We have been able to employ only a small portion of the nurses needed, however. In fact, the most serious problem of health administration on the centers is the very small number of qualified nurses available. We are using a much larger proportion of Nurses Aides from the evacuee population than is desirable from a point of view of sound medical practdew.

Evacuees are provided medical care, hospit lization and medication without charge. Up to the present, health conditions on the Centers have been remarkably good. The quality of medical care availble to the evacuees, through the use of evacuee personnel, except in the field of nursing, appears to be entirely satisfactory.

EMPLOYMENT:

Except in the field of education, the great majority of positions needed in the operation of the Centers are filled with evacuee personnel, Only key supervisory positions are filled with appointed Civil Service employees. In fact, it is the policy of the War Relocation Authority so far as possible, to provide useful, productive work for all employable evacuees. At the present time, out of 106,638 evacuees, 48,483 are employed. Work in the administrative office, the transport and warehousing systems, and other essential administrative operations employs about a third of this number. The remainder are used in productive enterprises in the fields of agriculture, industry, and public works.

Evacuees are selected and assigned to their work under a systematic program of Employment administration; they arepaid at the rate of twelve, sixteen or nineteen dollars a month according to the nature of their duties. This compensation is not considered a wage commensurate with the work being performed, rather it is a cash allowance, intended to enable the

evacuees who work to purchase such things as hair cuts, shoe repairs, tobacco, confections, and other goods and services that are not provided by the Authority. Evacuees who work also receive a cash clothing allowance for themselves and their dependents. Clothing allowances, depending upon the age of the dependents and the location of the Centers, range from $2.00 to $3.75 per month per person. Unemployment Compensation is provided eligible evacuees who are temporarily unemployed.

AGRICULTURE INDUSTRY AND PUBLIC WORKS:

When initial plans for Relocation Centers were being made the Authority did not anticipate the great demand which subsequently arose for evacuee labor outside the Centers. It was expected that extensive programs of agricultural and industrial production and public works would be needed to provide useful occupations for the evacuees. The possibility of establishing industries, not only to produce goods needed in the Centers, but also goods required in the war effort, was extensively explored. Similarly, care was taken to locate all Centers on relatively large areas of potential or developed agricultural land. On a number of centers a substantial program of land development was planned. On all Centers a number of buildings, roads, and other community facilities were omitted from the basic construction, and left to be built by evacuees.

Outside demands for labor, however, have reduced the labor forces on the Centers substantially below what was anticipated. It is now evident that there will be little opportunity or need for industrial development. A few small industrial projects contributing to the subsistence program of the Centers will probably be initiated. A few enterprises contributing to the war effort were established in some of the earlier Centers, and will be continued. The extensive industrial program, involving the establishment on the centers of industrial plants under private management paying prevailing wages which was at one time contemplated, has been abandoned as unnecessary.

On Centers having developed agricultural land, production will be largely limited to crops needed in the subsistence of the centers. It has appeared wiser in every way to release evacuees for work in private agricultural enterprises than to attempt to develop agricultural production for the market. On Centers on which there is no developed agricultural land at present, we propose now to develop only sufficient acreage to provide subsistence crops and livestock. All evacuees engaged in such activities will be compensated in accordance with the established employment program of the Authority.

Even this restricted program will provide work for substantial numbers of evacuees, and in the field of agricultural production particularly, will contribute substantially to the maintenance of the Centers. When all of the centers are fully developed, a large part of their food requirements will be met by their own production.

During the calendar year 1942, with most of the Centers in operation only a portion of the year, approximately $800,000 worth of vegetables and other crops were produced at four Relocation Centers. It is expected that $2,750,000 worth of vegetables will be produced during the calendar year 1943. Livestock fed and slaughtered on the Centers will provide an additional contribution to our subsistence program. It is estimated that during the fiscal year 1944, the value of livestock and livestock products produced on the Centers will reach 2,000,000.

In addition to land development on certain Centers, the Public Works Program will be confined largely to the development and construction of buildings needed in project operations. These include, on most Centers, schools, community store buildings, churches, agricultural buildings such as swine and poultry sheds, maintenance and repair shops, and additional quarters for appointed personnel.

COMMUNITY WELFARE:

Since the evacuee population is a complete cross-section of our general population, it inevitably includes a proportion of socially-maladjusted people, the bad along with the good. Moreover, the process of evacuation and relocation has introduced various strains and dislocations into the population. For example, eating in mess halls, bathing in community bath-houses, and utilizing community laundries and toilet facilities have already greatly strained the normal ties of family life, and threaten to weaken if not destroy the authority of parents over their children. At the very least center conditions make much more difficult the teaching of manners and morals which are ordinarily learned in the home. These problems are intensified by the relatively crowded and inadequate living conditions.

The War Relocation Authority is attempting to counteract the bad social effects of relocation by such administrative means as are at its disposal. Considerable can be accomplished through the educational system, but in addition the Authority has found it necessary to provide a qualified social welfare staff on each center. This staff is particularly concerned with the problems of family relationship, and of the old, the sick, and with orphans and delinquent children. The welfare staff determines family composition for the purposes of granting clothing allowances, and is responsible for administering a program of cash grants to persons who, because of health or for other reasons, are unemployable.

COMMUNITY ENTERPRISES:

The evacuees have been encouraged to establish community stores to provide goods and services necessary to the community, but not furnished by the administration. These include such personal services as are provided by shoe repair shops, mending and pressing shops, beauty parlors, and barber shops, and such goods as clothing, confections, toilet goods, stationery, and books and magazines.

All community enterprises have been organized and financed by evacuees (either through the use of their own funds or through credit secured from private sources) and are operated on a cooperative basis with profits used for community purposes or distributed to the evacuees. All evacuee personnel employed in the community enterprises are paid out of the funds of the enterprises at the same rate as if they were employed in operations of the Authority. The enterprises pay the Authority a reasonable rental for the space they occupy on the Center. The Authority provides a Community Enterprise Advisor on each Center, and undertakes to audit the books of the enterprise, but otherwise is not responsible for their operations.

COMMUNITY GOVERNMENT AND INTERNAL SECURITY:

The War Relocation Authority has undertaken to provide as much evacuee participation in the governments of the Relocation Centers as is consistent with the responsibilities performed by the administrative staff of the centers. In the first place, the Director of each Center has selected in each block a Block Manager to represent the administration in the transmission of information and instructions to the residents of the block, and to represent the block in the presentation of requests and proposals to the administration. Block Managers are also responsible for seeing that the block buildings are adequately maintained, and that block services are kept up to standards.

In the second place, regulations of the War Relocation Authority provide procedures under which members of the evacuee community may select a Community Council and other agencies of community government to advise and assist the Project Director in administering community aspects of the Center's activity. While all residents of the Centers 18 years of age and older may vote in community elections, only citizens are permitted, by regulation of the Authority, to hold elective offices. The authority of the Community Council, and such other agencies of local government and administration as may be established, is founded entirely upon the legal authority of theProject Director, as administrative head of the relocation center. It is the policy of the Authority to delegate to the evacuee representatives as much authority as is consistent with sound administration, and as the governmental organization of the community appears qualified to assume. The community organizations of the several Centers, naturally, vary somewhat in the degree of their development and in their capacity to assist the Project Director. This is particularly true at the present time when in most of the Centers permanent forms of community government are only now being developed. Consequently, the degree of responsibility delegated by the Project Directors varies from Center to Center, and will continue to be modified as the maturity and competence of the governmental organization increase or are altered by local circumstances.

Evacuees in the Relocation Centers are governed by three general categories of law and regulation:

1. The general law of the United States and of the State in which the Center is situated;

2. Regulations of the War Relocation Authority and the Project Director.

3/ Regulations made under the authority of the Project Director and with his approval by the Community Council.

Enforcement of these laws and regulations is the responsibility of the Project Director, who utilizes in the exercise of his responsibility both the agencies of community government and the internal security staff of the Center.

The internal security staff on each Center is headed by a qualified appointed Internal Security Officer. He is provided from two to a dozen appointed assistants, the exact number depending upon decision by the Authority as to requirements in the Center. In addition, the Internal Security Officer directs a staff of evacuee internal security assistants. These evacuee officers are selected because of their previous police experience or other special qualifications for the work. They are trained particularly in the preventive aspects of police administration.

EXTERNAL SECURITY

By agreement between the War Relocation Authority and the Army, the exterior boundary of each Relocation Center is guarded by a military police detachment. During the day the military police patrol the perimeter of the entire project area; at night they maintain a patrol around the immediate boundary of the Relocation Center. In addition, they are available to assume responsibility for policing the interior of the Center upon request of the Project Director. The Authority has experienced only one case in which it was found necessary to ask the military police to assume responsibility for maintaining order within a Relocation Center. This was in the Manzanar Relocation Center in California early in December. Experience at that time indicates that the present military policing arrangements are entirely adequate to maintain the external security for which they are intended, and to assume responsibility when necessary for maintaining order within the Centers.

Attached to this statement as exhibits oneand two are a copy of the memorandum of understandingas to the functions of military police units, at the Relocation Centers, and areas administered by the War Relocation Authority, approved by Mr. E. R. Fryer, War Relocation Authority, and Colonel Karl R. Bendetson of the Western Defense Command, and a copy of Circular 19, dated September 17, 1942, issued by J. W. Barnett, Brigadier General G.S.C., Chief of Staff, Western Defense Command, outlining policies governing the use of military police in War Relocation Centers.

BASIC POLICIES ON LEAVE AND OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT

Ever since the relocation program was initiated we have been confronted with the necessity of making evacuees available for outside employment, and of developing procedures for releasing evacuees on both

temporary and long-term leave under conditions which will provide adequate safeguards both to the evacuees and the general public. The War Relocation Authority first took the position that evacuation should be completed, the relocation centers built and staffed, and all evacuees transferred to the Centers before expending a major effort on private relocation. However, the need for labor in agriculture, especially for the production of sugar beets, became so great that the Authority was compelled to make recruitment for farm work immediately effective. Jointly with the Army, the Authority developed a program of group work leave under which 10,000 evacuees were made available for outside work in 1942, chiefly in the sugar beet fields.

GROUP WORK LEAVE

Recruitment of evacuees under the group leave policy and their release from both assembly centers and relocation centers was permitted under the following terms:

1. Evacuees must proceed at the expense of the employer to a designated locality, usually a county.

2. Evacuees are released only to areas in which the United States Employment Service has certified that labor is needed.

3. Evacuees are released only to accept employment under the terms of a written contract (evacuees are permitted to move to other employers in areas to which they are released, and, with prior approval of field representatives of the Authority, are permitted to move from one designated area to another, as the need for labor shifts. Thus, many evacuees released in the spring were kept in continuous employment throughout the summer. Out of the 10,000 released throughout the year, about one-fifth are still in outside employment under the group leave policy.).

4. Evacuees are released to go only to states in which the Governor has given written assurance that he will maintain law and order and to counties in which similar assurances have been provided by local authorities.

This group leave procedure has undoubtedly given the evacuees an opportunity which, for the most part, they welcomed, to work as free labor, and to assist in the agricultural program of the country. It contributed substantially to the production of sugar in the United States. Representatives of the sugar beet industry have indicated that during the coming season they hope to secure even larger numbers of evacuees, although they prefer to group leave a system which will permit the individual relocation of families on farms on a crop-lease basis.

TEMPORARY AND INDEFINITE LEAVE

On October 1, 1942, the War Relocation Authority published in the Federal Register leave regulations embodying the present policies of the Authority on the release of evacuees from Centers. These regulations outline three general types of procedure under which leave from Relocation Centers may be granted:

1: Group work leave under terms of the procedure outlined above;

2. Short term leave for a period not to exceed sixty days, under which evacuees may be permitted to attend funerals, visit sick relatives, attend court, or take care of other important business justifying their temporary release from the Centers.

3. Indefinite leave, under which evacuees subject to the conditions outlined below are permitted to leave the Centers to take up permanent residence.

Any resident of the Relocation Center is eligible to apply for indefinite leave, but before leave is granted, the following conditions must be met:

1. The evacuee must show that he has a definite offer of employment or other evidence that he can take care of himself at some point outside the area from which persons of Japanese descent are excluded by military order.

2. The War Relocation Authority must secure reasonable assurance that the community in which the evacuee proposes to relocate will accept him without incident.

3. An investigation of the evacuee, including a check of the records of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the office of Naval Intelligence, and the Office of Military Intelligence, indicates that release of the evacuee will not constitute a danger to the security of the United States.

4. The evacuee must agree to keep the War Relocation Authority informedof his location at all times.

At the present time some 1300 evacuees, approximately 500 of them college students, have been released on indefinite leave.

No phase of the relocation program has been given more careful study and thought than theleave policy of the Authority. On the one hand, we have kept always before us the problems of national security which gave rise to the evacuation. On the other hand, we have recognized from the outset that a relocation program which stopped with the transfer of evacuees to Relocation Centers would create more national problems than it would solve.

The leave policy was discussed with both the Attorney General and the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation before it was announced. The leaves regulations were approved by the Department of Justice before they were issued. The leave process requires continuous, close cooperation between the War Relocation Authority and the Department of Justice. The leave policy has also been approved by the War Manpower Commission from the point of view of its contribution to the manpower supply of the country. Through cooperation with the War Manpower Commission, Relocation Offices established by the Authority at appropriate locations throughout the country are endeavoring to place evacuees in occupations which will contribute as effectively as possible to the war effort.

Under the sponsorship of the National Student Relocation Committee, a non-governmental organization, several hundred evacuees have been released from relocation centers to attend college in institutions outside the evacuated areas. For several months students were granted special educational leave under temporary procedures of the Authority. Under present regulations, attendance at college is one of the purposes for which indefinite leave is granted. All students, now on educational leave, are subject to the same investigation and restrictions as are applied to other evacuees granted indefinite leave.

Granting leave to college students brings squarely to the fore the question of military service for Japanese-Americans. It does not seem just nor wise nor fundamentally American to deny Japanese-Americans, who have the ability and the resources, the right to secure a college education. On the other hand, we do not feel that it is just or wise to relieve them of their obligations to fight for their country. At the time of evacuation it became the policy of the Selective Service System to suspend the operation of selective service so far as the Japanese-Americans are concerned. Nearly 5,000 persons of Japanese descent, about half of them from the continental United States and the remainder from Hawaii, are, however, now serving in the United States Army. Most of them were inducted prior to evacuation, although during the past six months, several hundred Japanese-Americans have been recruited for special army service.

The War Relocation Authority believes that Japanese-Americans, like all other Americans, should be subject to the obligation of fighting for their country. We know that many Japanese-Americans are willing and eager to serve in the armed forces. We are convinced that success of the present relocation program, and in fact solution of the entire Japanese problem in this country after the war, will be seriously jeopardized if Japanese-Americans remain through the remainder of the war exempt from the obligation of military service. Since July 1942, the War Relocation Authority has actively urged that Selective Service for Japanese-Americans be reinstituted. I am glad to state that we have found support for our position among a significant number of Army and Navy officers, who are qualified by experience and contact with Japanese-Americans, to judge the effectiveness of Japanese-Americans in the military service.

EVACUEE PROPERTY

Determination by the Army that persons of Japanese ancestry should be evacuated from certain Pacific Coast areas was accompanied by a recognition that responsibility for the conservation of the property and property rights of evacuees must be assumed by the Federal Government. Respect for this principle was dictated not only by standards of equity, but by ordinary business sanse.

On March 15, 1942, the Army announced the formation of the Wartime Civil Control Administration. The Treasury Department, acting through the Federal Reserve Bank, was asked to take over the conservation of urban evacuee property, including real and personal, both business and residential, and intangible assets. The Farm Security Administration of the Department of Agriculture was assigned the task of accomplishing continuity in the agricultural operations already under way by evacuees and fair and equitable dealings in the transfer of evacuee interests to substitute operators.

On March 17, 1942, the Farm Security Administration established the Wartime Farm Adjustment Program to assist in a fair disposition of evacuee agricultural holdings and to aid qualified farmers in taking over such operations and obtaining credit. Where usual channels of commercial and governmental credit were not open to substitute operators, the Farm Security Administration received from the War Department $1,000,000 for a lending program. Subsequently, an additional $5,000,000 from the President's emergency fund was made available to them. Some 650 loans, totaling approximately $3,500,000, were made from these funds.

Prior to the departure of evacuees to assembly centers, they were passed through one of 64 control stations established in Military Zone No. 1 in cooperation with the United States Employment Service. In these control centers three-man teams, composed of representatives of the Federal Security Agency, Federal Reserve Bank, and the Farm Security Administration were available to assist evacuees in settling their affairs before the evacuation deadline, and to check to determine whether arrangements for handling of their property had been completed by the evacuees.

ACTIVITIES OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE BANK

This agency rendered assistance to evacuees in the leasing or otherwise disposing of their urban properties, and on March 29, 1942, provisions for the storage of personal property and effects of evacuees in warehouses were published, and evacuees were urged to take advantage of this service. This activity was administered by the Federal Reserve Bank through its setup designated as the Evacuee Property Department. As evacuees were transferred to assembly centers, those who availed themselves of the service afforded by the Federal Reserve Bank placed their household goods and personal belongings in warehouses leased by the bank for this purpose. A considerable percentage, however, preferred to place their goods in private storage, either in warehouses of their own selection, in Japanese churches and meeting halls, or with non-evacuee friends.

Pursuant to an agreement between the War Relocation Authority and the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco, the property of 2,867 evacuees was assigned by the above bank to the War Relocation Authority. These goods totaled over 2,000 tons in weight. It is estimated that there remains outside of warehouses under the jurisdiction of the War Relocation Authority some 32,500 tons of commercial property, household goods, and personal effects.

The records of the Federal Reserve Bank indicate that therewere referred to them some 5,000 properties of either residential or commercial character. The list included all those activities normally engaged in by business and professional people with a high percentage of the total being in cleaning establishments and laundries, hotels, nurseries, and residences. Food markets also held a high place in the statistical summary.

ACTIVITIES OF THE FARM SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

The records of the Farm Security Administration indicate that some 6,664 pieces of agricultural property, totaling 258,000 acres, were involved in the evacuation process. Practically all this land was intensively cultivated and devoted to the production of the food requirements of this area.

The farm machinery used on these properties was disposed of in one of several ways:

(a) outright sale; (b) by a leasing arrangement; (c) as a loan to the lessee of the evacuee s farm, the only requirements being maintenance and upkeep.

Some was placed in storage. It was usually insisted upon by the Farm Secuirty Administration that where the equipment was required for the operation of the property, arrangements should include this provision.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

On July 6, 1942, Colonel Karl R. Bendetsen of the Wartime Civil Control Administration in a letter to the Farm Security Administration stated in part as follows:

"Upon completion of evacuation of Areas No. 1 and No. 2, the responsibilities of the Farm Security Administration relating to the protection of evacuees' property will be accepted by the War Relocation Authority, exclusive of cases wherein loans were made to substitute operators".

In response to a memorandum dated July 8, 1942, from Colonel Bendetsen, the Regional Director of the War Relocation Authority at San Francisco on July 16, 1942, wrote Colonel Bendetsen as follows:

"Answering your memorandum of July 8, it is the intention of the War Relocation Authority to assume the responsibilities in connection with the management of evacuee properties following the completion of the evacuation of Military Area No. 2.

"We assume that all pertinent records will be turned over to this Authority by the Federal Reserve Bank and the Farm Secuirty Administration."

Since the exchange of the correspondence quoted above, both the Federal Reserve Bank and the Farm Secuirty Administration have taken the position that responsibility for the future handling of evacuee property should rest with the War Relocation Authority.

Scrutiny of the statistics presented above clearly indicates the importance of maintaining production of farm lands and of maximum possible utilization of all other property, both in the national interests and to preserve the equities of the owners thereof. Failure so to do would have a detrimental effect in several ways. The impact upon the tax structure of the communities involved would be serious. The food supply of the areas wherein the properties are located would be affected. There would be a marked reduction in the ho sing facilities in certain defense areas--notably in Seattle where 206 out of a total of 325 hotels (63%) in the city were operated by Japanese.

ORGANIZATION

It was recognized that the evacuees, having been removed from the areas indicated, where no longer in a position to personally operate, manage, or otherwise care for their property. The War Relocation Authority accordingly established the Division of Relocation Assistance. This division has a Pacific Coast evacuee-property office at San Francisco. There are field offices in Seattle, San Francisco, and Los Angeles. In addition, provision has been made for evacuee-property representatives at each relocation project.

FUNCTIONS

Evacuees are free to choose the manner in which they desire to have their properties cared for. They may select a person or concern to act as attorney-in-fact, they may choose an agent to act for them, or they may deal directly with persons having transactions with them. The services of the evacuee-property office are made available to evacuees if they prefer to use them. The functions of this office include acting upon the request of evacuees to determine if property is being properly maintained; securing tenants or operators of both agricultural and commercial property; negotiating leases or sales; adjusting differences; checking inventories of goods and equipment, and similar activities. The policy guiding the activities of the evacuee-property office are predicated upon the national interests and a recognition of the need for preserving the lawful interests of evacuees.

ORGANIZATION OF THE WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY:

Each of the eleven Relocation Centers (including the newly established isolation center at Moab, Utah) is administered by a Project Director, who is responsible for supervising all activities within the Center and for cooperating with the commander of the military police company assigned to exterior patrol. Each Director is provided with a staff of from 125 to 200 Caucasian assistants who head all the branches of community and project administration. At the present time more than a third of all project appointed personnel are employed in the educational program.

Each Project Director is immediately responsible administratively to the Director of the Authority. He is vested by the Director with appropriate authority to expend and account for government funds allotted to the project, to employ appointed personnel under Civil Service regulations, and to purchase and to utilize necessary supplies and equipment. Subject to regulations and policies of the Authority and the general laws and regulations of the government service, he is in full charge of the Relocation Center.

The Office of the Director of the War Relocation Authority is maintained in Washington, D.C. The Director is appointed by the President, and, within the framework of the Office for Emergency Management, of the Executive Office of the President, is administratively responsible to him. The Director is assisted by two Deputy Directors and a staff in Washington, organized into the following divisions:

1. Reports
2. Administrative Management;
3. Office of the Solicitor;
4. Relocation Planning;
5. Relocation Assistance;
6. Community Services;
7. Employment;
8. Agriculture and Engineering;
9. Industry.

Three Assistant Directors of the Authority are maintained in field offices; one in Little Rock, Arkansas; a second in Denver, Colorado; and the third in San Francisco, California. Each field Assistant Director has from one to three principal assistants and small clerical staff. The field Assistant Directors are responsible for assisting the Director in inspection and supervision of relocation centers and other field activities of the Authority, and for representing the Director in contacts with other governmental agencies and with the public.

To perform the functions of the War Relocation Authority in the field of evacuee property management, a Property Office under the direction of the Relocation Assistance Division in Washington, is maintained in San Francisco. Branches of this office have been located

in Seattle and Los Angeles. To assist in the relocation of evacuees outside Centers, and to main contact with those who have been granted leave, a series of field offices is being established under the direction of the Employment Division of the Washington staff. At the present time key relocation offices have been established in Salt Lake City, Denver, Kansas City, Chicago, and Cleveland. A number of subsidiary offices, concerned particularly with the use of evacuees in agricultural work are operating under the direction of the Salt Lake City office. Other subsidiary offices will be established as they are needed.

INDIVIDUAL EXCLUSION:

In addition towork connected with the relocation of the Japanese-American population, with which the War Relocation Authority is primarily concerned, we are responsible for providing assistance to individuals excluded from military areas. Removal of the Japanese- American population from the Pacific Coast is the only wholesale evacuation which the Army has ordered under Executive Order 9066. It has for some months, however, been engaged in the removal of designated individuals, both aliens and citizens, from restricted areas along the Atlantic, Pacific, and Gulf Coasts. Under the present procedure, individuals, after appropriate investigations and hearings, are ordered by the military authorities to leave the restricted areas. Pursuant to Executive Order 9102, the War Relocation Authority has developed procedures under which it interviews individual excludees, and undertakes to provide them with such financial and other assistance as they may require to comply with the military orders. With such information as is now available to the Authority, we do not expect that the individual exclusion program will ever approach in scope or complexity the work of the Authority arising from the evacuation of the Japanese population from the West Coast.